



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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DEQ, local groups partner for household hazardous waste collection

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality signed an agreement with the Louisiana Municipal Association and the Police Jury Association of Louisiana today that will lead to funding for statewide household hazardous waste collection projects. The agreement is the result of a national consent decree with ConocoPhillips.

The groups are working together to coordinate projects to collect household hazardous materials and school laboratory chemicals across the state. Louisiana municipalities, parish governments, nonprofit organizations, school boards and military bases are eligible to apply for the funding, which amounts to \$400,000 from a federal action against ConocoPhillips. Applicants located within the same area are encouraged to partner and submit one application.

Household hazardous materials are found throughout most homes. They include items like pesticides, paint, batteries, tires, gas cans and computers. If not handled and disposed of properly, these items can cause environmental harm. According to EPA, the average home can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of household hazardous waste.

“This is an example of state and locals working together for the common good of the environment,” said DEQ Assistant Secretary, Hal Leggett. “It’s important to dispose of household hazardous materials properly and the best way to do that is to have successful collections at the local level. This agreement will ensure that those with the best plans for collection and disposal will have the funding needed for a long-term project that is beneficial to the environment.”

Groups that are interested in participating must submit their application to DEQ by the Oct. 1 deadline. The notification of the awards will be made by the DEQ, LMA and PJAL on Oct. 15. For more information, please visit www.deq.louisiana.gov/bephm or contact Karen Fisher-Brasher at Karen.fisher@la.gov.

“This is an outstanding opportunity for parishes, municipalities, military bases and non-profit organizations interested in assisting in the management of household hazardous waste to begin a program or expand an existing program,” said DEQ Project Manager Karen Fisher-Brasher. “We look forward to working with these groups as they develop their programs.”